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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

FOR RELEASE
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L A T E N E W S

The May London wool auction closed on a very firm note after a series marked by increasing prices and widespread competition. Current prices of about \$1.67 for 64's-70 good medium fleeces, 92 cents for 56's fine crossbred and 64 cents for 46's crossbred compared with the last London auction in early April of \$1.47, 73 cents and 51 cents respectively, reflect the rising trend in world wool prices in the last month.

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Official ceiling prices for beef and pork in Argentina were increased May 17 by approximately 20 percent while sausages and cured meats were raised about 40 percent. This follows the previous increases of 30 percent last January and 25-30 percent July 10, 1951. Wholesale beef prices for dressed sides, which represent most of the supply, were increased approximately 45 centavos per kilo (4.1 cents per pound) and now range between 2.84 and 3.50 pesos per kilo (25.8 to 29.9 cents per pound). Retail beef prices are from 4 pesos per kilo (36.3 cents per pound) for cheaper cuts, to 9.20 pesos (83.5 cents per pound) for tenderloin.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to persons in the U.S. needing the information it contains in farming, business and professional operations. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

WORLD TOBACCO HARVEST LARGER THAN 1950-51

The world tobacco harvest for the 12-months' period ending June 1952 is now estimated at 7,420 million pounds as compared with an earlier forecast of 7,435 million pounds. The current 1951-52 estimate is 14 percent above the 7,137 million produced in 1950-51 and 12 percent above the pre-war annual average (1935-39) of 6,597 million pounds. Excluding the Soviet Union, China, and most of Eastern Europe, 1/ from which little information is available, world production is placed at 5,490 million pounds, or 74 percent of the total world estimate.

Increased consumption in most countries is reflected in larger world tobacco production. Many of the large consuming countries are in a better economic condition than a year ago and are using more and better quality leaf. Even though stocks are above last year's level in many countries, they are still below the prewar annual average, thus indicating a good potential world tobacco market for 1952-53. However, restricted use of dollars by many countries in the Sterling area will tend to limit purchases of United States tobaccos. If proposed programs are carried out and favorable weather conditions prevail in other flue-cured producing countries, no substantial changes in production are anticipated for the coming year except possibly a larger crop of flue-cured leaf.

Tobacco production during 1951-52 in the United States increased about 15 percent; in Canada, 26 percent; Dominican Republic, 7 percent; Philippine Republic, 9 percent; Greece, 8 percent; Italy, 3 percent; Yugoslavia, 77 percent; and Southern Rhodesia, 31 percent. Decreases occurred in the following countries: Germany 30 percent; Turkey 3 percent; Japan 3 percent; Iran 19 percent; Brazil 16 percent; and the Union of South Africa 22 percent. Most countries reported leaf quality as being comparable or better than last season's output.

World flue-cured tobacco production of 2,395 million pounds during the fiscal year July 1951-June 1952 surpasses the preceding year's record level of 1,988 million pounds by 20 percent and the 1949-50 output of 1,811 million pounds by 32 percent. Substantial increases in output occurred in many of the important producing countries and especially in the United States, China, Southern Rhodesia, and Canada. Decreases were recorded for Brazil, the Union of South Africa, India, Pakistan, and New Zealand.

Increased world demand for flue-cured leaf, used mostly in the manufacture of Virginia-type and United States blended cigarettes, has resulted in a progressive increase in output of this type of tobacco. Consumers in practically all countries are shifting from products containing dark and cigar tobacco to flue-cured and other light types used principally in cigarettes. Effective world demand for flue-cured leaf, especially United States flue-cured, would probably be substantially larger if it were not for restrictions by many countries on the use of foreign exchange for the import of tobacco.

1/ In this analysis the following Eastern European countries are included: Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, and Rumania.

TOBACCO: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, average 1935-39, annual 1950 and 1951 1/

Continent and Country	Acreage Harvested			Yield Per Acre 2/			Production		
	Average	1950 3/	1951 3/	Average	1950 3/	1951 3/	Average	1950 3/	1951 3/
	1935-39 1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1935-39 Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1935-39 pounds	pounds	pounds
NORTH AMERICA									
Canada.....	69	102	119	1,103	1,182	1,265	76,556	120,298	151,165
Costa Rica.....	4/	3	3	-	712	709	4/	2,278	1,984
Mexico.....	51	67	-	840	915	-	42,426	61,288	59,524
United States.....	1,647	1,599	1,781	887	1,269	1,307	1,460,054	2,029,567	2,328,226
Cuba.....	107	146	144	474	540	520	50,833	78,272	75,000
Dominican Republic.....	-	50	-	-	903	-	5/ 22,209	45,170	48,501
Puerto Rico.....	44	36	-	673	710	-	29,393	25,500	28,000
Estimated total 6/.....	1,960	2,055	2,250	-	-	-	1,710,000	2,393,200	2,705,000
EUROPE									
Albania.....	5	-	-	826	-	-	4,082	-	-
Belgium.....	6	4	5	2,500	2,275	2,150	16,431	10,119	11,477
Bulgaria 1/.....	94	-	-	809	-	-	75,871	-	-
Czechoslovakia 1/.....	24	-	-	1,288	-	-	31,143	-	-
France.....	44	71	68	1,676	1,654	1,710	72,995	117,450	116,844
Germany 1/.....	33	27	27	2,254	2,676	1,898	74,355	72,752	50,706
Greece.....	226	254	238	589	506	583	132,819	128,043	138,890
Hungary 1/.....	37	144	141	1,238	1,194	1,251	45,872	171,968	176,368
Italy.....	81	39	-	1,173	-	-	95,511	-	-
Poland 1/.....	17	-	-	1,664	-	-	28,566	-	-
Rumania 1/.....	44	-	-	647	-	-	28,697	-	-
Spain.....	-	28	37	-	1,202	1,190	17,322	34,171	44,092
Sweden.....	1	1	1	1,735	1,460	1,560	1,061	685	655
Switzerland.....	1	2	2	1,571	2,096	1,680	2,276	5,299	4,149
Yugoslavia.....	39	83	92	969	422	674	37,410	35,000	62,000
Estimated total 6/.....	680	881	881	-	-	-	675,000	815,000	860,000
U.S.S.R.									
.....	490	-	-	5/ 1,129	-	-	5/ 525,000	-	-
ASIA									
Iran.....	32	44	39	1,096	758	681	34,542	33,186	26,764
Iraq.....	11	10	10	752	1,700	1,700	8,057	17,000	17,000
Lebanon 8/.....	5/	5/	5/	5/	734	719	5/	3,907	4,332
Syria 8/.....	13	21	19	699	820	800	8,825	16,830	15,375
Turkey.....	194	317	300	661	590	603	128,505	187,270	180,777
Burma.....	108	-	-	990	682	-	107,072	-	-
Ceylon.....	14	10	11	-	-	659	4/	7,450	8,000
China, 1/.....	1,288	-	-	1,021	-	-	1,254,539	-	-
French Indochina.....	44	25	-	728	565	-	5/ 32,004	14,330	-

ASIA (Continued)

India.....	5/	917	812	825	5/	831	679	5/	761,000	551,040	-
Pakistan 1/.....	5/	355	-	-	5/	913	-	5/	324,053	-	-
Japan.....	5/	92	133	133	5/	1,621	1,637	5/	148,680	216,328	209,973
Formosa.....	5/	4	12	14	5/	1,458	1,662	5/	5,961	21,065	17,196
Korea.....	5/	46	49	-	5/	1,252	1,223	5/	57,304	60,000	-
Java and Madura:											
Estate.....	5/	69	18	-	5/	976	-	5/	67,762	-	-
Native.....	5/	349	-	-	5/	402	-	5/	140,298	-	-
Sumatra Estate.....	5/	31	9	-	5/	988	833	5/	30,715	7,500	-
Philippine Republic.....	5/	176	126	138	5/	427	524	5/	74,811	65,849	71,650
Thailand (Siam).....	5/	25	4/	4/	5/	688	-	5/	17,179	40,000	-
Estimated total 6/.....		3,150	3,600	3,600		-	-		3,250,000	2,826,000	2,760,000

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina.....		34	89	94		928	877		31,558	78,484	83,775
Brazil.....		237	297	298		851	783		202,703	232,301	194,225
Chile.....		9	9	8		1,846	1,797		16,618	15,994	13,161
Colombia.....	5/	37	-	-	5/	803	-	5/	29,706	45,000	45,000
Ecuador.....	5/	4/	4/	4/	5/	-	-	5/	2,410	2,425	-
Paraguay.....	5/	22	12	-	5/	801	911	5/	17,792	11,023	8,818
Uruguay.....	5/	2	1	1	5/	825	1,025	5/	1,254	661	741
Estimated total 6/.....		355	485	488		-	-		305,229	408,000	365,000

AFRICA

Algeria.....		56	80	76		691	526		38,667	42,815	40,968
Nyasaland.....		57	160	-		286	194		16,311	31,000	36,000
French Morocco.....		1	4	4		1,040	992		704	3,968	4,000
Madagascar.....	5/	19	13	13	5/	764	685	5/	14,164	8,906	8,576
Northern Rhodesia.....	5/	4	22	-	5/	486	450	5/	1,635	10,500	-
Southern Rhodesia.....	5/	51	174	194	5/	507	508	5/	26,061	88,208	115,845
Tunisia.....	5/	1	2	2	5/	1,196	875	5/	1,202	1,740	1,268
Union of South Africa.....	5/	41	-	-	5/	500	-	5/	24,593	51,687	40,121
Estimated total 6/.....		245	581	600		-	-		125,000	250,000	266,000

OCEANIA

Australia.....		10	7	8		532	841		5,276	4,248	7,222
New Zealand.....		2	4	4		787	1,410		1,457	5,436	5,000
Estimated total 6/.....		12	11	12		-	-		6,733	9,684	12,222
Sub-total, (excl. U.S.S.R.).....											
China and Eastern Europe) 2/.....		5,553	6,140	6,240		-	-		4,603,230	5,220,000	5,490,000
Estimated world total 6/.....		7,492	8,133	8,351		-	-		6,597,000	7,137,000	7,420,000

1/ Year beginning July 1. For North temperate zone countries, harvests July through October of the year shown; for all other countries, harvests November and December of the year shown and January through June of the following year. 2/ Yields are calculated from detailed acreage and production estimates rather than estimates rounded to the nearest thousand. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Data not available. 5/ Less than a 5-year average. 6/ Totals include approximations for countries not listed and for countries listed where data are not available. 7/ Data for 1935-39 not comparable with subsequent years. Data for 1950 and 1951 are postwar areas. In the case of Germany, postwar data are for Western Germany only. In the case of China, 1975-39 data are for Free China only. In India and Pakistan, due to changes in the method of estimating acreage and production, postwar data are believed to be more accurate than prewar. g/ Separate data not available for 1935-39. 2/ Includes Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Rumania.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Official estimates of foreign countries, reports from U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of Office research, and other information.

In the case of Oriental or Turkish tobacco, substantial increases were reported for Yugoslavia, Hungary, Greece, and Italy, while slight decreases were reported for Turkey and Union of South African countries. The countries of South Africa have decreased Oriental type production in favor of flue-cured for which there has been a substantial increase in demand.

Production during 1951-52 of light air-cured types including Burley, which represents an important portion of the world production in many producing countries, is estimated above 1950-51. A substantial increase was noted in the United States. However, this was offset by minor decreases in some other countries. Production of dark types other than cigar leaf is expected to exceed the 1950-51 output. Cigar leaf production is estimated slightly below the 1950-51 outturn, attributable, for the most part, to smaller United States production.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

MEAT PRODUCTION DURING 1951 1/

Meat production in the principal livestock countries of the world, exclusive of the Far East, is estimated by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations at about 73.5 billion pounds during 1951. This is believed to be a new record high and exceeds the 1934-38 average by almost 8 percent. The increase in meat production in 1951 as compared to 1950 was due to a 7 percent increase in the output of pork which more than offset slight declines in the production of beef and lamb and mutton.

The upward trend in meat production reflected the general increase in livestock numbers in most countries. The strong demand for meat with consequently favorable prices during the past few years encouraged livestock producers to expand breeding and feeding programs. The increased hog numbers have resulted in considerably higher pork production. Increased cattle and sheep numbers have not resulted in increased output of beef and lamb and mutton due to the holding back from slaughter of cattle and sheep in some countries because of the desire to build up breeding herds and because of high wool prices. In other countries, especially Argentina, Mexico and Australia, beef production has been hindered by prolonged drought.

Because of the larger livestock populations in most countries the outlook appears favorable for continued high levels of meat production in 1952.

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1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

MEAT 1/: Preliminary estimate of production of beef and veal, pork, mutton and lamb, and total meat in specified countries in 1951, with comparisons

Country	Beef and Veal				Pork (excluding lard)				Mutton and Lamb				Total 2/	
	1950		1951		1950		1951		1950		1951		1950	
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
NORTH AMERICA														
Canada 3/	735	916	823	621	964	1,006	61	36	36	61	36	1,417	1,916	1,865
Mexico	492	700	615	167	258	235	235	19	19	871	19	698	1,003	895
United States 3/	7,974	10,768	9,904	7,337	10,714	11,443	871	597	597	2	2	16,182	22,079	21,909
Cuba 4/	269	375	395	38	35	35	35	2	2			309	412	432
EUROPE														
Austria 5/	231	180	210	359	335	345	9	4	4	617	4	617	535	570
Belgium	304	287	311	367	376	324	88	6	6	337	3	693	713	687
Bulgaria 6/	105	-	-	600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia 7/	411	-	-	725	754	839	8	-	-	1,032	-	1,032	-	-
Denmark 3/8/	361	345	425	122	127	122	10	4	4	1,105	3	1,105	1,123	1,282
Finland 3/	115	97	104	122	127	122	10	13	13	256	12	256	245	248
France	2,200	2,160	2,138	1,494	1,742	1,609	9/	243	243	4,015	210	4,015	4,288	4,112
Germany-Western 6/	1,550	1,370	1,470	2,500	2,180	2,600	45	45	45	4,150	33	4,150	3,680	4,200
Greece 10/	32	20	23	40	37	39	9/	136	9/	208	80	208	137	142
Hungary	155	-	-	450	-	-	22	-	-	635	-	635	-	-
Ireland	103	133	178	196	148	127	37	34	34	336	32	336	315	337
Italy	705	665	640	11/	515	495	9/	108	9/	1,490	100	1,490	1,335	1,390
Netherlands	300	310	388	514	524	608	20	14	14	851	14	851	887	1,038
Norway 13/	94	102	119	89	102	76	32	33	33	223	35	223	243	238
Poland 14/	755	-	-	1,655	-	-	30	-	-	2,450	-	2,450	-	-
Portugal	57	68	62	185	222	226	9/	44	9/	290	48	290	345	338
Romania	245	-	-	375	-	-	110	-	-	735	-	735	-	-
Sweden 3/	292	252	292	327	374	365	9/	8	9/	649	5	649	657	691
Switzerland	217	188	196	190	200	196	4	4	4	419	4	419	402	407
United Kingdom 10/	1,393	1,420	1,460	1,012	791	825	447	334	334	2,852	295	2,852	2,545	2,580
Yugoslavia	243	-	-	476	-	-	147	-	-	888	-	888	-	-
Soviet Union 14/15/	2,855	-	-	3,307	-	-	978	-	-	7,140	-	7,140	-	-
SOUTH AMERICA														
Argentina	3,645	4,395	4,380	225	310	255	370	320	320	4,240	320	4,240	5,025	4,955
Brazil 16/	1,821	2,268	2,250	369	528	550	15	42	42	2,214	43	2,214	2,864	2,870
Chile	235	250	268	39	56	58	72	81	81	349	65	349	391	394
Paraguay	167	193	170	-	-	-	-	-	-	167	-	167	193	170
Uruguay	615	657	650	30	31	25	140	154	154	785	110	785	842	785
AFRICA														
Union of South Africa	421	670	600	64	107	103	9/	186	9/	671	165	671	937	868
OCEANIA														
Australia 10/	1,275	1,392	1,431	198	189	189	13/	714	668	592	592	13/2,187	2,249	2,212
New Zealand 11/	365	416	405	106	87	90	553	743	743	1,024	615	1,024	1,246	1,110

1/ Carcass meat basis - excludes edible offal and lard. 2/ Includes other meat, i.e. goat and horse meat. Excludes offal, rabbit and poultry meat.
 3/ Averages for years 1935-39. 4/ Averages for years 1936-40. 5/ Averages for years 1933-37. 6/ Averages for years 1935-38. 7/ Year 1936 for prewar.
 8/ Includes carcass meat equivalent of live animal exports. 9/ Includes goat meat. 10/ Averages for years 1936-38. 11/ Production data for prewar and postwar years are not on a comparable basis and are subject to revision. 12/ Revised. 13/ Year beginning July 1. 14/ Year 1958 for prewar.
 15/ Prewar territory. 16/ Excludes farm production. 17/ Year beginning July 1 for prewar; year ending September 30 for years 1950 and 1951.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of the United States Foreign Service officers, and other information. Data for countries having changed boundaries relate to present territory, unless otherwise noted.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTSFOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE
SITUATION IN GREAT BRITAIN

The present outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Great Britain has affected 133 farms in England, Scotland and Wales. It is concentrated in 13 main areas and is most severe in the Cheshire area.

Since November 1951, the disease has been reported from 259 farms and over 30,000 livestock have been destroyed. This includes 15,025 cattle, 9,116 sheep, 6,514 pigs and 20 goats.

The slaughter policy has been followed in dealing with the disease and many of the farms on which outbreaks occurred now are considered clear of infection and able to keep stock again.

Since the disease has been reported on the Isles of Jersey and Guernsey, the only countries in Europe considered free of the disease are Ireland and North Ireland. Both are taking the utmost precautions to safeguard their livestock industries against the contagion. Australia, New Zealand and the United States are the only other major livestock producing countries which do not have the disease.

NEW MEAT FACTORIES
IN IRELAND 1/

A new concern, to be called Shannon Meat Limited, registered with nominal capital of £150,000, is being established at Rathkeale, County Limerick. It contemplates utilization of valuable by-products. Exports of chilled, frozen and canned meat from the factory will be shipped from Foynes, County Limerick, when the plant commences operations later this year.

A new meat and by-products plant is also planned for Drogheda, County Louth, which is adjacent to the rich grasslands of Meath and to the port of Drogheda which can accomodate ocean-going vessels. A further new establishment is contemplated for Cork, where a new concern expects eventually to handle 2,000 head of cattle weekly. Two new factories of substantial size are being built at Dublin.

1/ A detailed report on Ireland's Meat Trade will be published in the July-August issue of Foreign Agriculture, single copies of which will be available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

ACTH TO BE MADE IN MEAT FACTORY IN IRELAND

A new company is being formed in Ireland to manufacture ACTH from by-products of a new Dublin meat processing concern, on whose premises it will also be housed. Glands will be procured not only from the Dublin factory but from other new meat establishments as well. Production of the drug is expected to commence in the final quarter of 1952. Similar units at other locations may be expected as the country's meat processing potential is expanded.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

CANADIAN COTTON CONSUMPTION LOW

Consumption of cotton in Canada in April 1952 amounted to just over 25,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), the lowest monthly consumption total since August 1949, according to B. Harrison of the American Embassy staff, Ottawa, and Louise Schaffner, Vice Consul, American Consulate General, Montreal. This low consumption figure is partly attributable to a strike which was in effect throughout April in one of the larger Canadian spinning mills. During August 1951 through April 1952, the first 9 months of the 1951-52 season, consumption totaled 275,000 bales, 25 percent below the 365,000 bales consumed during the corresponding period of 1950-51. Members of the trade estimate that about 350,000 bales will be consumed during the current season, compared with the 479,000 bales consumed in 1950-51.

The weak demand for cotton textiles which has prevailed in Canada for almost a year is primarily responsible for the continued low level of consumption. Textile wholesalers continue to purchase on a short-run basis as opposed to the normal pattern of seasonal or biseasonal purchases. Increased imports of lower-priced cotton textiles from the United States during the recent world-wide slump in prices have further reduced the demand for domestic goods on the local market. Although there has been some discussion among members of the trade to seek increased tariff protection against these imports, it is reported that the Canadian Government is not likely, at present, to revise the existing "fair market value" price basis for duty purposes. The trade believes that when the United States industry revives and prices are strengthened the pressure of competition will be relieved.

Imports of raw cotton during the first 8 months of 1951-52 totaled 255,000 bales, compared with the 365,000 bales imported in the same months of 1950-51. Thus far in the current season almost 243,000 bales have been imported from the United States, 11,500 bales from Mexico, and some small quantities from Egypt and Peru. During the corresponding period of 1950-51 slightly more than 300,000 bales originated in the United States and 61,000 bales in Mexico. The fact that Mexican cotton prices (including the export tax) were substantially above the United States level during the early part of the current season has largely accounted for the decline in imports from Mexico. The drop in Mexican prices late in 1951, below those prevailing in

the United States, stimulated the purchase of Mexican cotton in 1952. More than 7,000 bales of the 11,500 total imported this season have arrived in the first 3 months of 1952. However, many of the Canadian mills had largely covered their requirements for the season before the fall in Mexican prices, thereby limiting the quantity that otherwise may have been obtained from Mexico in 1951-52 as a result of the favorable price relationship. Should the price of new-crop Mexican cotton remain below the United States level, Canada will probably make heavier purchases in Mexico in 1952-53 than in the current season.

FATS AND OILS

ITALY HAS LARGE SUPPLY OF FATS AND OILS

With a record olive oil output now estimated at 354,000 metric tons (plus some 40,000 tons of sulphur oil) and a substantial carry-over from last year's large imports of vegetable oils and oilseeds, Italy has an abundance of edible oils and a serious problem in the management of its stocks and prices, reports L. J. Reda, American Embassy, Rome. Olive oil producers have been demanding Government protection against competition from cheaper seed oils and the oilseed crushers have been demanding protection from the imports of refined oils. The Government has some 70,000 tons of vegetable oil stored to its account from relatively high cost imports and also holds about 30,000 tons of domestic olive oil. Several steps have been taken and others are under consideration in an effort to bring greater stability into the market and to minimize financial losses.

Oilseed imports in 1951 totaled 140,093 metric tons, up one-third from 1950. Soybeans were most important at 38,594 tons. Of these, about 75 percent came from China and most of the remainder from the United States. Copra at 32,725, mainly from the Philippines was second in importance, followed by 18,015 tons of flaxseed, mainly from Argentina and Eritrea. Other substantial imports included 11,260 tons of rapeseed, mainly from China and 7,697 tons of castor seeds from several sources in Asia and Africa.

In the case of vegetable oils, imports totaled 87,333 tons and represented a 25 percent increase from 1950. Soybean oil from the United States at 30,103 tons was the largest single item. Peanut oil from India, coconut oil from Ceylon, palm oil from Africa, and linseed oil from Argentina made up the bulk of the remainder.

Imports presumably will be reduced sharply in 1952, particularly of edible vegetable oils and oilseeds which compete with olive oil. Re-exports of certain fats and oils may also increase to relieve the pressure of large stocks on domestic prices. During 1951, Italy exported some 5,000 tons of oilseeds and 2,800 tons of vegetable oil, mainly soybean oil.

NORWAY'S COD-LIVER OIL OUTPUT
IN 1952 MAY EQUAL LAST YEAR'S

Norway's production of cod-liver oil in 1952 is expected to approximate that of 1951 provided fishing conditions remain favorable, reports H.A. Bowman, American Consulate, Bergen. The major cod fisheries began their operations in January and usually bring them to a close in May or June.

Production of cod-liver oil this season, as of March 22, was reported at 1,320,875 U.S. gallons. This was somewhat below the comparable figure of 1,585,050 gallons in 1951, but somewhat higher than the 1,056,700 gallons reported for the same period in 1950. Production for the whole of 1951 was 3,170,000 gallons.

More boats and more men are engaged in cod fishing this year than ever before. As of late March there were 5,593 vessels and 24,053 men participating in the most important cod area, the vicinity of the Lofoten Islands.

A price war in the fishing area as of late March had been in full swing since operations began in January. This was said to be the result of a minimum price schedule for fish established by the Fishery Department and the Price Directorate, as was done last year. Keen competition had arisen among the factories, canneries, and others, in their efforts to procure fish. As a result, prices had gone up materially. And prices of raw livers climbed correspondingly.

Export prices for cod-liver oil this year had not been announced as of late March. However, the fishing organizations were pressing the Norwegian Government to initiate action toward that end. Prices were reported to have strengthened somewhat owing to a recent sale of 660 short tons of oil to Germany. This was to be used in the making of margarine, soap, and other products.

Prices of oil for export probably will not change much this season as long as world political conditions remain as they are, according to the opinion of one of the leading men in the industry. The export trade in medicinal cod-liver oil, feeling the competition of vegetable oils and the synthetic vitamin industry, believe that a reduction in the world's large supplies of vegetable oils would result in a greater demand for cod-liver oil.

Buyers in the United States, the largest single importing country of Norway's steamed medicinal cod-liver oil in 1951, were reported recently as being "very cautious" compared with last year. Exports to the United States last year were 330,388 gallons out of a total of 1,726,690 gallons. The Netherlands and Western Germany, second- and third-largest purchasers, took 219,117 and 182,883 gallons, respectively.

AUSTRIAN CONSUMPTION OF VEGETABLE OILS AND LARD INCREASE

During the calendar year 1951 consumption of vegetable oils and lard in Austria amounted to approximately 51,500 metric tons against 47,900 tons during 1950, reports H. C. Lint and H. G. Stuckmann, American Embassy, Vienna,

Vegetable oils from indigenous sources, estimated at 1,950 tons in 1951 are of little commercial importance. This oil was supplied principally from the production of 3,456 tons of rapeseed (1,300 tons of oil produced) and 600 tons of pumpkin seed oil.

Imports of oilseeds for the production of edible oils, in terms of refined oil, were slightly smaller than during the previous year--13,600 tons as compared with 14,580 tons in 1950. European Recovery Program (ERP) shipments, which in preceding years had accounted for the greater part of total receipts, dropped completely out of the picture in 1951, and all imports were made on a commercial basis. Copra ranked foremost among the materials received in 1951 and accounted for 78 percent of the total oil derived from imported raw materials. Imports of 18,310 tons of copra were more than double the volume received in 1950. The United Kingdom is listed as the source of 17,058 tons during 1951 because official trade statistics show exporting countries rather than the countries of origin. Most of this copra actually came from Malaya via the United Kingdom. In addition to copra, Austria received 2,971 tons of peanuts, 3,045 tons of rapeseed and smaller quantities of other oilseeds.

Imports of vegetable oils increased 86 percent from 1950--from 7,984 to 14,841 tons. While most of the increase was due to better import opportunities through commercial channels, more than 7,000 tons of edible oils brought in under ERP funds contributed substantially toward the improved supply.

Lard imports of 21,201 tons were 9 percent below the quantity imported in 1950. Commercial imports of 14,056 tons were supplied principally by Belgium--4,036 tons, France--2,449 tons, Denmark--2,399 tons, and the United States--2,219 tons. ERP imports from the United States totaled 7,145 tons.

Imported oilseeds and raw oils for the production of edible fats and oils, as well as compound lard, margarine, and imported lard, continued subject to rationing controls throughout 1951. Although the supply situation is fairly satisfactory, rationing has remained in force in 1952.

Austrian stocks of edible vegetable fats and oils, including unspecified quantities of fish oil and tallow, was officially reported on December 31, 1951, at 7,069 tons. This quantity was sufficient to supply the ration requirements, the needs of food industries, and the free market for about 3 months.

TURKEY EXPECTS LARGE OILSEED CROP IN 1952

Turkey's record 1951 vegetable oilseed crop of almost 560,000 short tons is expected to be equalled, if not exceeded, in 1952, reports Laurell L. Scranton, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Ankara. The area planted to cotton and sunflower seed will more than likely be as large as last year when some 1,586,000 and 266,000 acres, respectively, were under cultivation. Cottonseed output of about 340,000 tons and sunflower seed of around 118,000 tons together accounted for more than 80 percent of Turkey's total 1951 production of oilseeds.

Poppy acreage for 1952 is thought to be about average while the area planted to flaxseed is dependent upon the export market outlook at seeding time. Among the minor oilseed crops, soybeans and peanuts may be expected to show considerable percentage increase in the future as export crops, although the total acreage of each is not likely to become very large.

TURKEY: Vegetable oilseed acreage and production, 1951 with comparisons

Oilseed	Acreage			Production		
	Average: 1935-39:	1950	1951 1/	Average: 1935-39:	1950	1951 1/
		1,000 acres			1,000 short tons	
Cottonseed.....	667	1,108	1,586	131	212	340
Sunflower seed.....	2/	272	266	2/	73	118
Flaxseed.....	49	123	100	10	31	28
Hemp seed.....	30	31	27	2	5	4
Poppy seed.....	72	70	77	12	11	22
Sesame.....	151	161	146	25	33	30
Rape seed.....	2/	13	8	2/	4	4
Soybeans.....	2/	5	6	2/	2	2
Peanuts.....	2/	7	11	2/	5	10
Anise seed.....	2/	7	6	2/	1	1
Safflower seed.....	2/	3	3	2/	1	1
Total.....	3/ 969	1,800	2,236	3/ 180	378	560
1/ Preliminary. 2/ Not available. 3/ Total of available data.						

Central Statistical Office, Ministry of Agriculture.

Cottonseed crushing in Turkey is done mainly at some 20 relatively large pressing plants, while most other seeds are handled at numerous small plants, estimated up to 300, scattered throughout the producing areas. Estimates of oil production for 1951 are not yet available, but it is assumed that it will run larger than the 1950

estimated output of about 32,600 tons. The principal oils produced in 1950, excluding olive oil, were cottonseed--14,690 tons, sunflower seed--6,970, sesame seed--6,040, and poppy seed 3,340 tons. Turkey's 1951/52 olive oil production is estimated at 38,000 tons.

Exports of all vegetable oilseeds from Turkey in 1951 totaled 70,926 tons, or slightly above the 1950 export of 68,990 tons. Major oilseed exports in 1951 and principal destinations in parentheses were as follows: cottonseed-28,275 tons (the United Kingdom, Western Germany, and France); sunflower seed--24,044 (Western Germany, the United Kingdom, Israel, and France); and flaxseed--10,286 tons (France and Greece). Vegetable oil exports of 327 tons consisted mainly of cottonseed oil to Egypt. No vegetable oilseeds, oils, or by-products were imported during 1951.

EGYPT'S VEGETABLE OILSEED, OIL IMPORTS INCREASE

Egyptian imports of 22,383 short tons of oilseeds and 16,945 tons of vegetable oils in 1951 represented marked increases from the 1950 importations of 13,972 and 9,285 tons, respectively, reports J.M. Sayer and J.G. Panos, American Consulate General, Alexandria. Although the 1950-51 cottonseed crop was somewhat larger than in the 2 previous seasons, the cottonseed oil output, due to smaller oil yields, has been decreasing since 1949. For the first time since 1948, Egypt imported 7,952 tons of Sudanese cottonseed for crushing. Imports of 1,180 tons of cottonseed oil, mainly from Hungary, were the first imports of this commodity into Egypt. Egypt also imported 5,646 tons of sesame seed in 1951 to meet increasing local consumption demands for the oil.

Imports of vegetable oils other than cottonseed oil in 1951 consisted primarily of 10,005 tons of coconut oil (mainly from Ceylon and Malaya), 2,846 tons of olive oil, and 1,059 tons of palm oil, most of which was used in the manufacture of soap.

Production data for the principal vegetable oilseeds produced in Egypt in 1951 have been revised from those reported in Foreign Crops and Markets of December 3, 1951, as follows: cottonseed (commercial) for crushing-635,590 tons (in addition, some 100,000 tons of cottonseed are used annually for seeding); flaxseed-51,850 bushels (preliminary 1952-177,160 bushels); sesame seed-10,950 tons; and peanuts-20,000 to 22,000 tons.

Cottonseed oil output in 1951, also revised, is now placed at 88,800 tons, as compared with the revised 1950 production of 93,700 tons. Egypt also consumes between 1,500 to 2,000 tons of linseed oil and from 4,500 to 5,500 tons of sesame oil each year. Most of the peanuts produced in the country are consumed locally either fresh or roasted.

Egyptian exports of vegetable oilseeds and oils are negligible in comparison with imports, and consist principally of limited quantities of cottonseed oil exported each year in exchange for industrial oils.

ALGERIAN FLAXSEED PRODUCTION
EXPECTED TO CONTINUE SMALL

Flaxseed production in Algeria this year is expected to approximate last year's small crop, according to J. F. Christiano, American Consulate General, Algiers. Production has dropped sharply the past 2 years--from a high of 673,000 bushels in 1949 to 174,000 in 1950 and 58,000 in 1951. The decrease was due to the Government's elimination of the guaranteed price for flaxseed.

Flaxseed is the only important vegetable oilseed crop, other than olives, produced in Algeria. Oil production from the large 1951 olive crop is estimated at 25,000 short tons. (See "Mediterranean Basin Olive Oil Production a Possible All-Time High," Foreign Crops and Markets, April 21, 1952.)

Consumption of vegetable oils, other than olive oil, in Algeria is estimated at approximately 22,000 tons a year. Unofficial sources have estimated 1951 consumption at 24,000 to 26,000 tons, consisting mostly of peanut oil. An estimated 4,400 tons of peanuts were consumed as food during 1951.

Imports of vegetable oilseeds (6,769 tons) and oils (31,587 tons) increased considerably over 1950 imports. Peanut purchases of 4,466 tons were primarily for consumption as such.

Exports were of little commercial importance in 1951; totaling 889 tons of oilseeds and 779 tons of oil. Exports of "other oilseeds," which consisted mostly of flaxseed, dropped from 13,594 tons in 1950 to 734 tons in 1951. The remaining 155 tons were peanuts.

No action has been taken by the Algerian Government to reduce vegetable oil imports in order that the large 1951-52 olive oil production can be sold on the local market. This is explained partially by the French Government's guaranteed price for French West African peanut oil production and also by the preference of the population for peanut oil. The price of peanut oil in Algiers, tax included, as of early May, was 230-235 francs per kilo (29.8-30.5 cents per pound) retail, and competed price-wise with most grades of Algerian olive oil.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS**CEYLON'S RICE RESERVES
CRITICALLY LOW**

During recent months the Government of Ceylon has been considerably concerned about its low supply of rice. Despite efforts to obtain rice from any source, reserves recently have been critically low, according to the American Embassy, Colombo. Higher rice prices in the world market have added to Ceylon's difficulties in obtaining adequate supplies.

According to the mid-May estimate of the Ceylon Food Commissioner, rice stocks approximated about one month's supply. There was indication that approximately 78 million pounds of rice were available for consumption.

Ceylon's short-term rice agreement with Burma reportedly assures a supply of 179 million pounds on a Government-to-Government basis and 90 million pounds through Burmese private trade or a total of 269 million pounds. This was the outcome of the Food Mission's visit to Burma. Ceylon has been a large buyer of Burma's exportable surplus in former years.

Thailand allocated 22 million pounds of rice to Ceylon in January, while Pakistan agreed to send Ceylon 45 million pounds in the same month. Japan loaned 27 million pounds of Thai and Burmese rice to Ceylon in January. This was repaid in March with a comparable quality of rice from the United States.

Although these measures have afforded temporary relief, the Ceylon Government is investigating the possibility of obtaining substantial quantities from Vietnam. Up to the present, 22 million pounds of Vietnam rice have been received, and more is expected.

CEYLON: Rice imports, by country of
origin, January-March 1952, with comparisons

Country of origin	Average 1935-39	1949	1950	1951	January-March	
					1951	1952
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Burma 1/	985:	610:	897:	831:	205:	173
Thailand . . .	202:	119:	139:	0:	0:	23
Indochina . .	23:	0:	0:	0:	0:	16
Egypt	0:	111:	62:	0:	0:	0
Pakistan . . .	0:	0:	0:	56:	0:	12
Other	8:	2/ 49:	3/ :	2:	0:4/	16
Total	1,218:	889:	1,098:	887:	205:	240

1/ Burma and British India. 2/ From Italy. 3/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 4/ On loan from Japan.

Ceylon Customs Returns.

It is considered likely that both Burma and Vietnam may release considerable quantities of rice later in the year when stocks have been built up in these countries.

Recent reports predict a record domestic paddy crop for the Maha 1951-52 season (February harvest), but it is not expected that this increase in production will be large enough to ease the situation appreciably.

Ceylon imported 240 million pounds of rice during the first quarter of 1952. An estimate of the first-quarter consumption of domestic rice is 111 million pounds. Total consumption during the first quarter is estimated to have totaled approximately 350 million pounds.

Unsubsidized imported rice continues to be released by the Government without restriction to private traders, but sales, according to officials of the Food Control Department, were slack during the first quarter of 1952. This is because only Pakistani and Thai broken rice of inferior quality was available. Better-quality imported Milchard was released only in small quantities on permits at \$8.93 per 100 pounds. This rice is sold through retailers at 9 to 10 cents a pound. Unsubsidized imported rice could also be purchased at Government sponsored cooperative stores at 8 cents a pound when available.

BURMA RICE MARKETING

Burma's rice exports during March of 365 million pounds brought the total during the first quarter of 1952 to 712 million pounds, including 43 million pounds of bran. Despite the comparatively small exports in January and February of 153 and 194 million pounds, respectively, the heavy March shipments resulted in the exportation of about one-fourth of the trade anticipated in 1952.

Bids advertised by the State Agricultural Marketing Board (SAMB) on April 12 were closed on April 23, and the results were announced on May 3. Prices of these sales ranged from a low of \$7.71 per 100 pounds for Ngasein/Ngakyauk sold to India to a high of \$9.05 per 100 pounds for Ekarine Small Mill Special sold to the Red Seas and Persian Gulf areas.

The SAMB in April informed buyers that the April 23 tender would be the last for shipment during May and June. This apparently excluded sale of old-crop rice, for that agency on May 7 advertised for bids closing May 16 for rice of harvests before 1951-52. The advertisement stated that the rice could be sold to any country without regard to quota. Quantities estimated to be available from old-crop rice were: 1948-49, from 1,570,000 to 2,240,000 pounds; 1949-40, from 5,380,000 to 7,620,000 pounds; and 1950-51, from 52,000,000 to 73,000,000 pounds.

BURMA: Export prices of rice sales (private trade), May 3, 1952

Grade	: Price 1/	: Destination	: Quantity	
			: Long	: Million
	: Dollars per:		: tons	: pounds
	: 100 pounds :			
	:		:	:
Milchar II	8.19	:Ceylon	4,000:	9.0
Boiled Rice Full	7.81	:India	29,000:	65.0
N/N Small Mill Special	7.71	: "	6,000:	13.4
Ekarine SMS	9.05	:Persian Gulf	2,000:	4.4
Europe No.2	8.92	:Japan	2,000:	4.4
Europe No.3	8.86	:Japan	500:	1.1
N/N SMS	8.06	:Borneo	2,000:	4.4
Long boiled	8.92	:Ceylon	2,000:	4.4
Ngasein S.Q.	8.73	:Japan	2,000:	4.4
N/N SMS	8.06	:Bahama	400:	0.9
Sughandi SMS	8.57	:Red Sea, Persian :		
	:	:Gulf, East Africa, :		
	:	:and United Kingdom:	10,000:	22.4

1/ Quotations in sterling per long ton converted to dollars at the official rate of exchange (L = \$2.80).

Private firm.

As far as is known, the Government of Burma has not yet informed buyers regarding the sale of rice for shipment during the July-December period of 1952. Information compiled from best sources available is that so far Burma has committed about 1,450 million pounds of the 1951-52 crop, or approximately 50 percent of probable exports. These commitments by country of destination are as follows:

Country of destination	: Commitments			
	: Government-Government :		: Private trade	
	: 1,000	: Million	: 1,000	: Million
	: long tons	: pounds	: long tons	: pounds
	:	:	:	:
India	230	515	70.0	156.8
Ceylon	80	179	40.0	89.6
Indonesia	72	162	36.0	80.6
Japan	30	67	21.0	47.0
United Kingdom	26	58	22.5	50.4
Persian Gulf areas	0	0	8.5	19.1
Saudi Arabia	0	0	0.3	0.7
Goa	0	0	3	.7
Finland	0	0	3.0	6.7
Others	0	0	13.0	29.1
Total	438	981	214.6	480.7

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
REVISES GRAIN ESTIMATES

The Union of South Africa now estimates its corn crop, harvested in early 1952, at about 62 million bushels compared with 101 million a year earlier, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. This is slightly above the first estimate, but is still somewhat below normal domestic requirements of about 85 million bushels. With a substantial carry-over from last year's large crop, however, available supplies now appear to come within about 5 million bushels of the country's requirements.

No shortage of corn is expected until the end of 1952 or the beginning of 1953. Increased use of some substitute crops, such as kaffir corn, potatoes, certain pulse crops, and rice are expected, and this would further reduce import requirements for corn, which is selling on the world market considerably above the Union's domestic price. The new price for this season's corn, which become effective May 1, is about 13 percent higher than the 1951-52 rate. The new price is the equivalent of \$1.18 per bushel.

The Government recently announced that all corn products sold for food, feed, or for industrial use will be mixed yellow and white corn. The proportion of the mixture is to be a maximum of 60 percent white and a minimum of 40 percent yellow corn. This is to conserve supplies of white corn which is, at present, scarcer and more in demand than yellow corn. The traditional use in the Union has been white corn for direct food use and yellow corn for feed.

Losses in the corn acreage as a result of drought are reported to have left more land available for seeding to small grains. Seeding is now underway, and an increase is expected for wheat acreage, as growers are anxious to regain losses experienced through reduced corn yields.

Latest revised estimates place the wheat crop harvested mainly in December 1951 at 25 million bushels. This was only slightly below the record crop reported the previous year and was much larger than the average of 16 million bushels.

The Ministry of Agriculture recently announced the details of a policy for the loan of funds to cooperatives and individuals for the construction of storage facilities for the bulk handling for grain throughout the country. The lack of such storage facilities for grain has been one of the most important problems facing the country, for many years. When grain bags were available, storage was accomplished by stacking bags in the open under canvas cover. Since the shortage of bags caused by India's embargo of jute bags to the Union in 1946, however, the shortage of adequate bulk storage space has become a more acute problem, especially acute in recent years of record or near-record harvests.

When the storage program is completed, more orderly marketing practices will be possible, doing away with the necessity to export such a large part of the surplus from a good crop that inadequate provision is made for possible small crops in following years. Losses from weathering and rodent damage have also resulted from storage in the open. The storage program is expected to enable the country to reduce import requirements for corn and also provide needed space for storing its annual wheat import requirements.

UNITED KINGDOM GRAIN OUTLOOK FAVORABLE

Grain acreage in the United Kingdom will be slightly larger than the 1951 acreage, according to farmers' intentions to plant as of March 1952. Based on these tentative indications, wheat would be slightly below the actual 1951 acreage but this slight reduction would be more than offset by increased barley acreage. No significant change is forecast for other grains.

The total grain acreage intended to be sown in England and Wales, which account for the bulk of the United Kingdom's area, is forecast at 6.47 million acres, an increase of about 2 percent over the 1951 acreage. Wheat acreage is forecast at 1.98 million acres compared with 2.06 million last year. The forecast for barley is 1.96 million acres, a 13 percent increase over the 1951 barley acreage.

The condition of both winter and spring crops is reported generally very good, with soil conditions favorable for germination of spring seedings. Some insect infestation has occurred. The Ministry of Agriculture reported conditions on May 1 as follows:

"Winter wheat is healthy and vigorous and well forward in most districts, but damage by wheat bulb fly is reported from several eastern areas. Spring wheat has germinated well. Winter barley is generally satisfactory. Early sowings of spring barley have germinated, but generally it is too early to report on appearance. Winter oats are strong and healthy and spring oats have germinated satisfactorily."